

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 DHA-02 VOE-00 INSE-00 SCA-01 SY-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 /020 W

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R 210826Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3957

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS JAKARTA 5213

DEPT FOR ORM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJ: INDO-CHINESE REFUGEES (SIV, SICHAN)

1. EMBASSY HAS JUST LEARNED FROM JAKARTA OFFICE OF CARE THAT SIV SICHAN, FORMER EMPLOYEE OF CARE AND BEFORE THAT CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT, IS NOW IN THAI REFUGEE CAMP. SIV WAS BORN PHNOM PENH ON MARCH 1, 1948. SIV NOW LOCATED CAMBODIAN REFUGEE CAMP, WAT KOH, ARANYA-PRATHAT, PRACHINBURI PROVINCE, THAILAND.

2. SIV WORKED FOR CARE 1974-75, CARE ONLY HAD CAMBODIAN PROGRAM FOR THREE YEARS, AND SIV HIRED WHEN PROGRAM BECAME OF SUBSTANTIAL SIZE. BEFORE APRIL 1975 EVACUATION FROM CAMBODIAN CARE GAVE AMBASSADOR DEAN LIST OF NINE SENIOR CARE EMPLOYEES RECOMMENDED FOR EVACUATION AND SIV'S NAME WAS INCLUDED. SIV WAS UNABLE TO REACH AIRFIELD IN TIME FOR EVACUATION. HE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY TAKEN BY NEW REGIME, RESETTLED IN COUNTRYSIDE, MADE SEVERAL ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE, WAS RECAPTURED AND SENTENCED TO EXECUTION, ESCAPED AGAIN, AND FINALLY REACHED THAILAND FEB 15, 1976.

3. BEFORE WORKING FOR CARE SIV WORKED IN 1973 FOR CAMBODIAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AS ENGLISH-FRENCH TRANSLATOR/INTERPRETER FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES. PRIOR TO THIS HE HAD ALSO BEEN ENGLISH TEACHER IN BENG TRABEK HIGH SCHOOL, PHNOM-PENH (1972-73); PART TIME ENGLISH-FRENCH/KHMER TRANSLATOR/INTERPRETER
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AT KYODO BUREAU, PHNOM PENH (1971); AND STEWARD-TRANSLATOR /

INTERPRETER FOR ROYAL AIR CAMBODGE AIRLINES (1969-70).

4. SIV HAS SPONSOR IN US: MR. AND MRS. ROBERT CHARLES, 1290 WHIRLWIND HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD, CONN. EMBASSY IS INFORMED TOLSTOY FOUNDATION (MEMBER OF CARE BOARD OF DIRECTORS) WOULD PROBABLY BACK UP THE CHARLES' SPONSORSHIP IF NECESSARY.

5. SIV APPARENTLY WAS CONSIDERED QUALIFIED FOR PAROLE IN APRIL 1975 BUT WAS PHYSICALLY PREVENTED BY NEW REGIME FROM LEAVING COUNTRY THEN. AS EMPLOYEE OF CARE (THEN A USG CONTRACT AGENCY) AND FORMELY EMPLOYEE OF CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT, EMBASSY BELIEVES HE COULD NOW BE CONSIDERED ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE.

6. BRUCE STRASSBURGER, OF CARE'S JAKARTA OFFICE, WILL BE IN BANGKOK THE WEEK OF APRIL 26 TO SEE SIV AND ARRANGE FOR ASSISTANCE FOR HIM, AND WOULD LIKE TO CALL AT EMBASSY TO DISCUSS THE CASE.

7. REQUEST DEPARTMENT REPEAT TO BANGKOK ANY DEVELOPMENTS ON THIS CASE.
NEWSOM

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